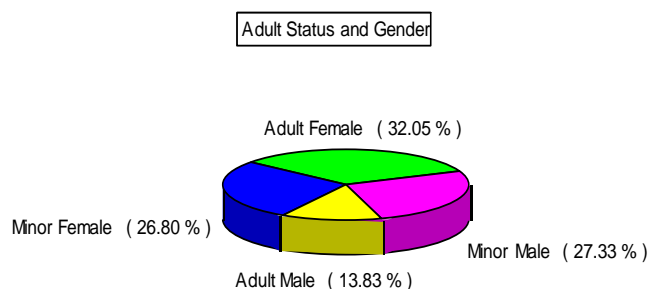


# Wisconsin Food Stamp Program At a Glance

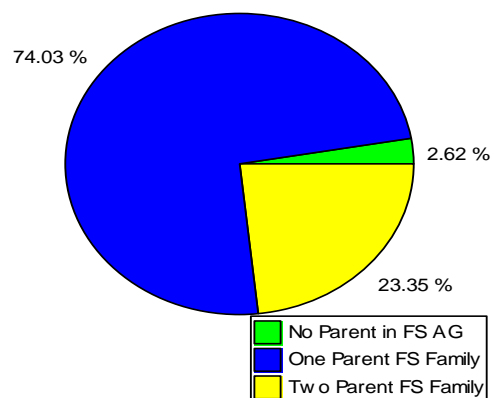
All data is for (or as of) the month of August, 2003<sup>1</sup>

## Who gets food stamps in Wisconsin?

- **Poverty:** 5.7% of the 5.4 million people in Wisconsin receive FS.<sup>2</sup> On average from 1998 - 2000, 8.8% of the state population was at or below the federal poverty rate.<sup>3</sup>
- **Assistance Groups (AGs)/Individuals:** 124,741 Assistance groups are made up of 309,249 individuals. The number of AGs continues to increase at a steady rate. There are an average of 2.5 people in an AG.
- **Gender:** 59% of the recipients are female and 41% are male.



- **Adults/Minors:** 46% are adults while 54% are minors. 60.2% of AG's have minors in them.
- **Minors and Their Parents:** Of the AGs that contain minors, 74% have one parent in the AG, 23.4% have two parents, and 2.6% have no parents in the household. "Parent" is defined as a biological or adoptive parent.
- **Parents That Are Minors:** 1,007 minors in 980 FS AGs are parents. That's 1/3 of 1 percent of the individuals that receive FS.

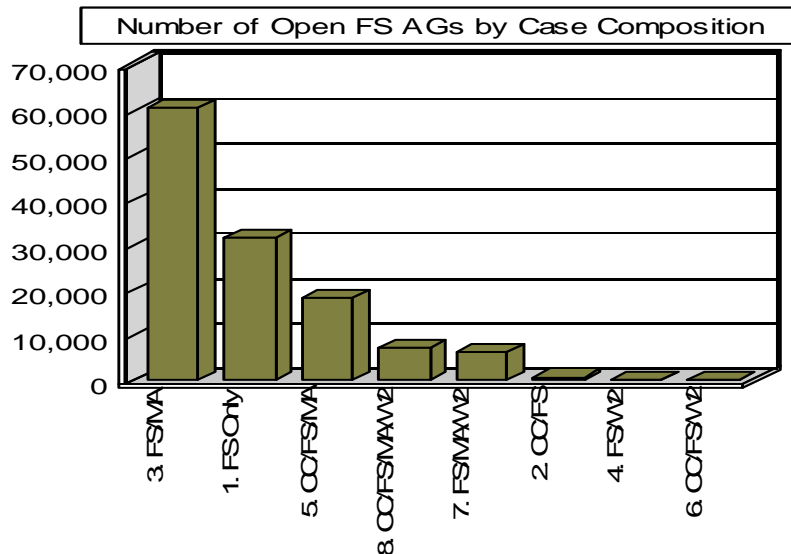


<sup>1</sup> Source: DWD/DWS FS Data Warehouse

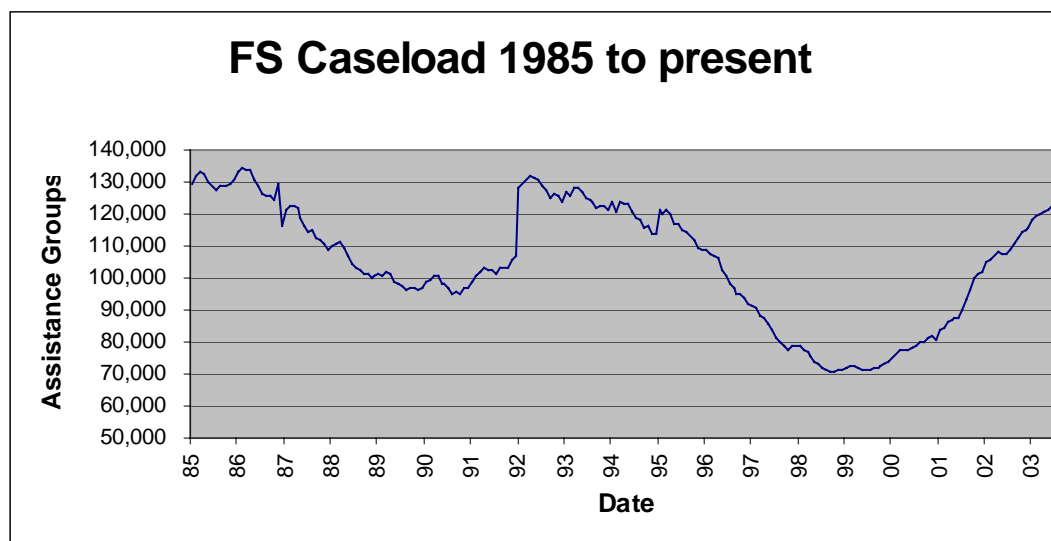
<sup>2</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/55000.html>

<sup>3</sup> Source: U. S. Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p60-214.pdf>

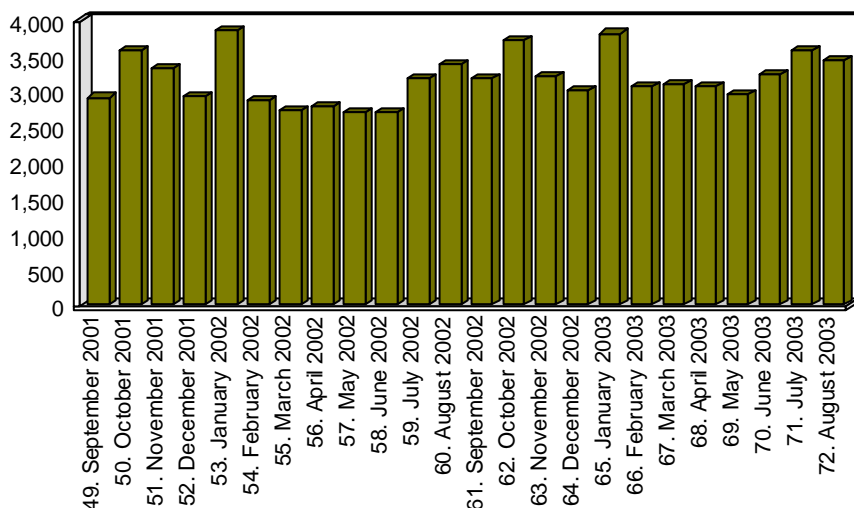
- **Case Composition:** The graph shows other types of CARES issued assistance that a FS AG receives.



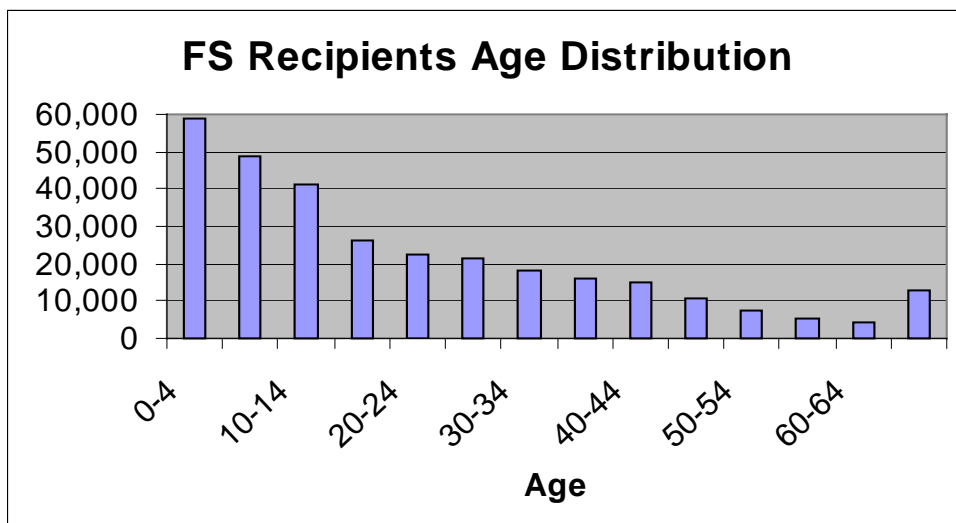
- **Historical Caseload Trend:** The statewide caseload had been increasing at a steady rate since September of 1999.



- First Time FS AG's:** This chart shows the number of first-time FS assistance groups over the last 2 years. Only AGs that have never received FS in Wisconsin before the month shown appear in this chart. For August 2003, 3,440 FS AGs received FS for the first time. This slightly reverses the trend of the previous three months.



- Age Distribution:** The chart below shows the number of FS recipients by age, in ranges of 5 years. Children under age 4 has largest number for any 5 year grouping making up 19% of recipients. 50% of the recipients are 15 and younger.



- **Elderly/Disabled:** 16.6% of FS recipients are either elderly, blind, or disabled. 40.7% of AGs contain at least one individual that is either elderly, blind, or disabled.
- **Work/Earnings:** 16.5% of the AGs have at least one person working. A very slight increase from last month. The average monthly earned income of those AGs' is \$970, a \$2 increase from last month.<sup>4</sup> 33.1% of adult FS recipients are employed, slightly fewer than last month. Currently, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Wisconsin is 5.9%, up 3 tenths from last month.<sup>5</sup>



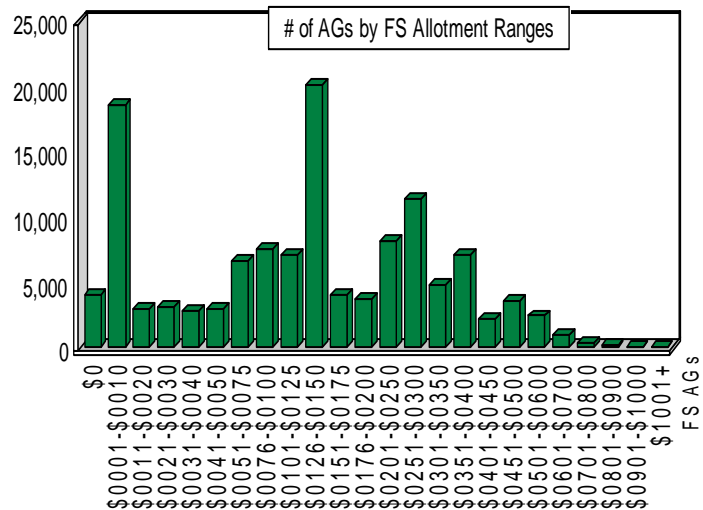
- **Working Families:** A "working family" is defined as a FS AG that contains at least one minor, at least one parent of a minor, and at least one employed recipient. This is an attempt to explore those FS recipients that have children and are working. Working families make up 27.6% of the statewide FS AGs, average 3.6 persons per AG, and average \$1,137 in earned income per month. Other stats are available below.

Parent in FS AG	FS AGs	Unduplicated FS Recipients	AG Earned Income Amt	Avg. Earned Income per AG	AG Unearned Income Amt	Avg. Unearned Income per AG	FS Allotment Amt - FTM	Avg. Allotment per AG
One Parent FS Family	24,367	77,755	\$25,766,364.65	\$1,057.43	\$4,853,626.72	\$199.19	\$4,057,480.00	\$166.52
Two Parent FS Family	10,123	48,546	\$13,468,650.68	\$1,330.50	\$2,086,255.62	\$206.09	\$2,546,344.00	\$251.54
<b>Sum:</b>	<b>34,490</b>	<b>126,301</b>	<b>\$39,235,015.33</b>		<b>\$6,939,882.34</b>	<b>Sum:</b>	<b>\$6,603,824.00</b>	

<sup>4</sup> This statistic contains prospective income for cases that may have caused the case to close at the end of the report month. Therefore, the income reported here was not necessarily the income used to calculate eligibility for the allotment amount.

<sup>5</sup> Source: DWD Labor Market Information at [http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/employ\\_civilianlaborForce.htm](http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/employ_civilianlaborForce.htm)

- Allotments:** A total of \$20.6 million in food stamp benefits were allotted for the month. The average allotment amount per AG is \$164. The average allotment for AGs that contain an elderly, blind, or disabled member remains stable at \$99. However, 38% of the EBD caseload receives between \$0 and \$10 in allotments.



- Statewide FS Allotments:** The graph below shows the total dollars in FS allotments spent on all FS AGs statewide for the past two years. The total has remained above \$20 million for last four months.

